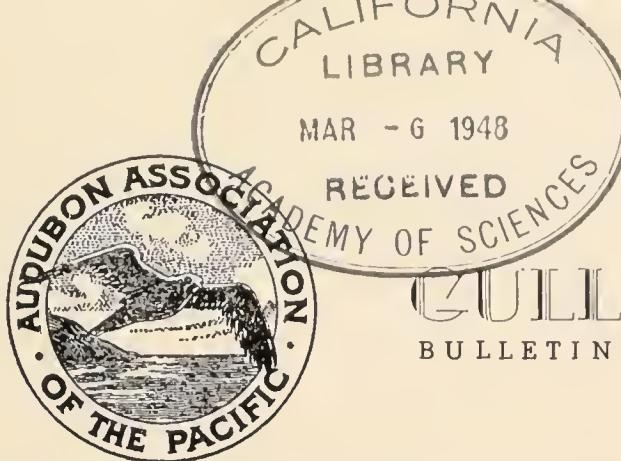


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Number 3

Bird Census at Benicia, California

Benicia, Solano County, California. Observers travelling together by automobile with frequent stops to canvass the marsh, waterfront and live-oak hill area along the highway between Benicia and Cordelia (these two towns being fourteen miles apart). Benicia waterfront 30%, marsh 20%, open fields 10%, hills 40%. December 28, 1947, 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Foggy in morning, clear in afternoon; cold west wind 8-12 m.p.h.; temperature, 38°-46° F. Total hours, 19 (9 by senior observer, 5 each by juniors; 17 on foot, 2 by car); total miles, 50 (30 by car, 20 on foot).

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Western Grebe, 3 | Killdeer, 30 | Water Pipit |
| Great Blue Heron, 1 | Black-bellied Plover, 60 | (American), 20 |
| Common Egret (American), 12 | Wilson Snipe, 1 | Cedar Waxwing, 32 |
| Snowy Egret (Brewster's), 5 | Red-backed Sandpiper, 42 | Loggerhead Shrike |
| Black-crowned Night Heron, 12 | Western Gull, 58 | (California), 27 |
| Snow Goose (Lesser), about 250 | California Gull, 8 | Audubon Warbler, 55 |
| Pintail, 20 | Ring-billed Gull, 2 | English Sparrow, 140 |
| Green-winged Teal, 1 | Bonaparte Gull, 90 | Western Meadowlark, 275 |
| Shoveller, 160 | Band-tailed Pigeon, 2 | Red-winged Blackbird, 8 |
| Canvas-back Duck, about 750 | Barn Owl, 1 | Brewer Blackbird, about 2700 |
| Lesser Scaup Duck, 30 | Red-shafted Flicker, 16 | House Finch, 230 |
| Ruddy Duck, 32 | Downy Woodpecker (Willow), 1 | American Goldfinch (Willow), 49 |
| Red-tailed Hawk, 10 | California Jay, 13 | Arkansas Goldfinch (Green-backed), 8 |
| Marsh Hawk, 4 | Plain Titmouse, 6 | Brown Towhee, 1 |
| Sparrow Hawk, 19 | Bush-tit, 50 | Savannah Sparrow, 40 |
| Virginia Rail, 1 | Long-billed Marsh Wren (Suisun), 2 | Junco, 70 |
| American Coot, about 800 | Robin (Western), about 1200 | White-crowned Sparrow (Nuttall), 130 |
| 53 species, about 7,645 individuals. | Hermit Thrush, 8 | Golden-crowned Sparrow, 115 |
| | Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 35 | Song Sparrow, 10 |

Many hunters in this area during the second portion of the dual open

season caused waterfowl to be wary on the date of census. Most of the waterfowl observed were at too great a distance to identify and these are not included in the census.

—Marjorie M., Donald E., and

December 28, 1947

Emerson A. Stoner,

Benicia, California.

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February Field Trip

The 22nd trip of the Association to Burlingame was held on Sunday the fifteenth. Twenty-three members and guests took advantage of the good weather and enjoyed the birding from the bay to the foothills. Starting from Easton Drive on El Camino Real in Burlingame, after a preliminary look at the birds on the bay, the party was directed by the leader, Mr. Arthur H. Myer, up to the Skyline Boulevard. After lunch the party went to San Andreas Lake where we saw the birds on the San Francisco Game Refuge of the Water Department.

Species noted only on the bay shore at Burlingame:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Common Egret | Black-bellied Plover | Western Sandpiper |
| Lesser Scaup Duck | Long-billed Curlew | Marbled Godwit |
| Ruddy Duck | Willet | Belted Kingfisher |
| Killdeer | Dowitcher | Black Phoebe |
| | | House Finch |

Species noted from Burlingame to San Andreas Lake:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Western Grebe | Ring-billed Gull | Robin |
| Eared Grebe | Mew Gull (Short-billed) | Ruby-crowned Kinglet |
| Pied-billed Grebe | Anna Hummingbird | Hutton Vireo |
| Double-crested Cormorant | Red-shafted Flicker | Audubon Warbler |
| Great Blue Heron | Western Flycatcher | Townsend Warbler |
| Black-crowned Night Heron | California Jay | Western Meadowlark |
| Mallard | Plain Titmouse | English Sparrow |
| Canvas-back Duck | Chestnut-backed Chickadee | Purple Finch |
| Turkey Vulture | Bush-tit | Pine Siskin |
| Red-tailed Hawk | Red-breasted Nuthatch | Spotted Towhee |
| Sparrow Hawk | Wren-tit | Brown Towhee |
| California Quail | Bewick Wren | Fox Sparrow |
| American Coot | Hermit Thrush | Oregon Junco |
| Glaucous-winged Gull | Varied Thrush | White-crowned Sparrow |
| A total of 57 species. | | Golden-crowned Sparrow |
| | | Song Sparrow |

—Kenneth Schulz, *Historian*.

A Tomales Bay Incident

On December 27 Mr. Warren Flock and the writer were driving north along Tomales Bay, with frequent stops to observe the numerous water birds. A very large flock near Hog Island indicated the presence of a swarm of small fish. As we watched, the birds approached closer and closer, and were seen to be mostly Brown Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, and various gulls. Presently a flock of White Pelicans came over from Pelican Point. Their method of catching fish was in striking contrast to that of the Brown Pelicans, and showed a remarkable degree of cooperation. A row of the birds would fly in toward the shore, striking the water with their wings and feet, thus driving the fish into shallow water where they were caught by the birds while sitting on the water. This performance was repeated several times while we watched spellbound from very close range.

— A. Laurence Cirl.

Observations

Edited by MRS. JUNEA W. KELLY

5 Mt. Bluebirds, 12 White-throated Swifts, December 25, Mt. Diablo; 1 Horned Owl, January 3, Wild Cat Canyon; 1 Road Runner, January 3, near San Leandro Reservoir, A. Laurence Cirl.

White-throated Sparrow, December 18 and 20, 11000 Broadway Terrace, Oakland; 3 Red-throated Loons, December 27, Tiburon; Red-breasted Sapsucker, December 26, 11000 Broadway Terrace, Oakland, Mrs. Vee Curtis.

Least Sandpipers, apparently picking insects off grass; January 8, 1948, Berkeley Aquatic Park, Herman V. Lefler.

March Meeting

The 366th meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific will be held on March 11, 1948. Meet at 8:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the San Francisco Public Library at Larkin and McAllister Streets. Mr. Brighton C. Cain will be the speaker of the evening. His topic will be "Birding is Fun."

March Field Trip

The March Field Trip will be taken on Sunday, the fourteenth to Tilden Regional Park. Mr. Jean M. F. DuBois will lead the trip. San Francisco members take the 8:17 a.m. "F" train at the Key System Terminal and ask for a transfer at the gate. Get off at University and Shattuck Avenues and take the No. 67 bus. East Bay members also take the same bus. Get off at Summit Reservoir. Bring lunch and binoculars. Visitors are welcome to our field trips.

Officers of the Audubon Association for 1948

| | |
|---|--|
| President, Mrs. Ethel Richardson | Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Joseph J. Webb |
| First Vice-President, Mr. Jean M. F. Dubois | Treasurer, Miss Ivander MacIver |
| Second Vice-President, Mr. Herman V. Leffler | Director, Mrs. George C. Browne |
| Recording Secretary, Miss Hazel Walsh | Director, Mr. A. Laurence Curl Director, Dr. T. Eric Reynolds |

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Field Trips:

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Miss Frances Blake
Mrs. Otis Smith

NOTE: A vote will be taken at the March meeting to determine whether or not the Audubon Association of the Pacific is to become a branch of the National Audubon Society. All members are urged to be present to cast their votes.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| President..... | Mrs. Ethel Richardson..... | 887 Indian Rock Ave., Berkeley 7 |
| Corresponding Secretary..... | Mr. Joseph J. Webb..... | 519 California St., San Francisco 4 |
| Treasurer..... | Miss Ivander MacIver..... | 2414 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 4 |
| Editor..... | Miss Minnie H. Young..... | 2726 Prince Street, Berkeley 5 |

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 8:00 p. m.

Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library, Larkin and McAllister Sts., San Francisco

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.50 per year

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year

Life memberships, \$50.00

Subscription, \$1.00 per year